

The fervor of new-born zeal has passed and the movement has settled to the work which called it forth and which will continue to demand its existence. It was born of a great need, that of utilizing and training the energy of the young people of the church. The need will be permanent and therefore Christian endeavor will be permanent unless something better can be found to take its place. Amos R. Wells says of its accomplishments: "Our society has proved the value of a pledge to do the things one really means to do and the weakness of an intention which will not declare itself. Our society has drawn the churches nearer together so that the amputated members of the one body are growing into a true organism. Our society has fashioned the young people into a superb tool; now let the churches use it! Our society has elevated the religious training of the young from an unconsidered, scorned subject, to the first rank in the interest of the Christian church."

Christian Endeavor in its career has taken up certain definite lines of activity gaining its inspiration therefrom from the Word.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR CHARACTERISTICS

1 Loyalty to one's own church, I Cor. 11:2.

Has Christian Endeavor really caused the young people to be loyal to their own churches?

In what should our loyalty to our own church consist?

If we should discover our own church in error in some way what course would loyalty cause us to take?

What special reasons have the young people of the Brethren church for being loyal?

2 Fellowship with other Christians, John 17:21.

Is fidelity to one's own church in any way incompatible with fellowship with other Christians?

What advantages have been derived from touch with the young people of other churches?

Need we or should we give up or compromise any truth in order to work with the whole Endeavor movement?

3 Missionary enthusiasm, Matt. 28:19.

Courses of missionary reading, regular offerings for missions, missionary lectures, and missionaries trained from the ranks of the young people are among the fruits of Christian Endeavor.

Can a movement be Christian and not be missionary in spirit?

What more can the young people's societies of the Brethren church do for missions?

4 Good citizenship, Mark 12:17.

Christian Endeavor is now old enough to vote. How can it best use its influence in politics? It has had a series of studies in good citizenship which has quickened the consciences of the individuals of the movement.

Ought the movement as a movement engage in politics or leave such matters wholly to the individuals?

What are some things the members of our societies can be doing for good government?

5 Systematic giving, I Cor. 16:2.

The tenth legion composed of those who give at least one-tenth of their income to the Lord now numbers thousands. The young people are being trained not only in systematic but also in proportionate giving.

What should be the standard of our giving?

How can our society improve its methods of giving?

6 Christ-like living, I John 2:6.

The standard of consecration has been raised by the C. E. movement and will be raised still higher until it reach the mark of our high calling.

In what ways can we be more "what he would have us be?"

7 Pledged service, Ps. 65:1; Rom. 12:1.

How does an open declaration strengthen a purpose?

Has the experience of the C. E. movement proven the pledge a help to its members?

8 Definite work, John 15:16.

The idea of committee work has been of the greatest value. All the members of the C. E. societies are supposed to have some definite work to do. Thus they are trained into service.

How can we put our inactive members to work?

9 A progressive movement, Phil. 3:13, 14.

It has gone from one attainment to another and by growing in grace and wisdom proves its right to continue.

Can a movement long exist unless it be progressive?

What do you think will be some of the advance steps yet before the C. E. movement?

10 A trustful movement, John 15:5.

All its work is prefaced by the thought "Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength."

What is the relation of faith and works in the Christian life?

Can a movement fail if it be guided continually by the Master?

What reasons for hopefulness have we at this stage of the Christian Endeavor movement?

C. F. YODER.

Christian Life

Prayer

O Father above! Teach me to look out hopeful today upon today's new world. White is this page plucked from thy calendar—let my doings put no blotch thereon. If amidst these distractions I forget a moment that I should act worthily as thy child, forgive and draw me to thyself anew. With whomsoever I speak, before whomsoever I appear, help me to leave a sense of cleanliness and high purpose. Shall not some other soul find it easier to follow thee because I, the blundering, keep on and keep heart? Such relief as we cannot give induce fellow mortals to give earth's suffering ones, wilt thou provide? Breathe affection into all people for all people. Wherever there is a nerve shall mercy stand for sentinel? Be it ours to inflict the least possible pain and kindle the utmost possible joy amongst our human-kind. Hasten the hour wherein labor shall no longer lift clenched fist against capital and mutter, "What thou hast is mine," but employer shall reach a brother's hand to employe and say, "What I have is thine." The thing we need most, whether we ask it or not, be pleased to grant. Bend over crib and couch, that infant and invalid may see thy face. For his sake who is righteous in our stead, cancel our guilt, make us appreciative of thy goodness and take us to the shelter of thy vast love forevermore Amen.

—Rev. S. Edward Young.

The Almond Tree in Blossom

"The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness." But no one likes to grow old. Old age is a period of decay; it is a time when men let go the pursuits of life, a time when many are forgotten, a time when death is considered near. For these reasons the signs of approaching age are never welcome. But old age is an exceedingly interesting period of

human life. It is interesting because of its memories and because it marks the completion of an important mission. We look on a young tree with a feeling of hope, but that hope may be disappointed. We look on an old tree with a different feeling. No accident can prevent the old tree from bearing fruit, for it has borne fruit. Bad company and bad habits may wreck the soul of a promising youth and disappoint the hopes of his parents and friends, but nothing can prevent the usefulness of the Christian who has grown old in the way of righteousness. He has accomplished his mission. He has borne fruit.

Old age crowned with righteousness is a witness to the goodness and faithfulness of God. The old are His special charge. He has borne the aged saint thru countless dangers, and carried him almost to the end of his journey. "With long life will I satisfy them." The wisdom which cometh from above promotes long life. "Length of days is in her right hand." How does it happen that the fathers are still living? Why is it that they did not fall by some disease or accident long ago? When we consider the delicacy and sensitiveness of the vital organs, in how many ways disease may invade the body, how easily the breath of life may be cut off, and how many dangers stand around us every day, the mystery is

"That a harp of a thousand strings
Should keep in tune so long."

If these aged ones had lived as many others have lived they would have been in their graves long ago. But the Lord has preserved them, according to his promise. It is true that good men sometimes die young and bad men sometimes live long, but it is true also that righteousness tends to prolong life. At any rate, life is not to be measured by figures on the dial. Some men live more in a year than others live in threescore years.

"Tis not the number of the lines
On life's fast-filling page
'Tis not the pulse's added throbs,
That constitute our age."

"They shall be fat and flourishing." The old flourish in being delivered from those ills which are peculiar to their time of life. The righteous are delivered from peevishness and fretfulness in old age. It has often been noted that the decay of physical strength and nervous force tends to make men fretful. Old people are sometimes disagreeable companions. Cicero says: "I reckon this circumstance connected with old age the most wretched, to be conscious at that age that one is disagreeable to others." But Cicero never saw an old man who was a Christian. It is one of the glories of Christianity that it fills the heart with patience and peace, even in old age. Some of the most amiable and patient characters in the world are aged men and women. They have eaten of the milk and honey of Canaan so long that their souls are sweet and lovely to the last. It is a joy to be with them. The sunshine of glory is